

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MED-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 421

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NDJAMENA 2753

LAGOS FOR RMO

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: AMED, PFOR, CD, FR

SUBJ: AMBASSADORS DISCUSSION WITH GOC PRESIDENT MALLOUM ON
FUTURE FRENCH MILITARY HOSPITAL IN CHAD

REF: NDJAMENA 2704

1. IN MEETING OCTOBER 23 WITH PRESIDENT MALLOUM PRIOR AMBASSADOR
LITTLE'S DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS, AMBASSADOR
INFORMED PRESIDENT IF IMPORTANT ROLE FRENCH MILITARY HOSPITAL
IN NDJAMENA HAD PLAYED IN HEALTH OF USG PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO
CHAD AND ENQUIRED AS TO FUTURE OF HOSPITAL.

2. PRESIDENT MALLOUM STATED THAT FRENCH AMBASSADOR HAD RE-
QUESTED THAT HOSPITAL BE ALLOWED REMAIN NDJAMENA AS "CONSULAR
HOSPITAL" TO SERVE ESSENTIALLY SAME CLINETELE AS PREVIOUSLY
SERVED. PRESIDENT SAID THAT HE HAD REPLIED THAT HOSPITAL WOULD
HAVE TO BECOME PART OF CHADIAN ARMED FORCES, TO WHICH FRENCH
AGREED. PRESIDENT WOULD NOT GIVE ASSURANCES AS TO CLIENTELE
HOSPITAL WOULD SERVE, NOR TO OTHER UNIDENTIFIED

"CONDITIONS" FRENCH REPORTEDLY HAD DEMANDED, SAYING THAT THESE

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QUESTIONS COULD BE LEFT TO "MIXED COMMISSION" OF FRENCH AND

CHADIAN OFFICIALS WHIP WILL APPARENTLY BE CONCERNED WITH DIS-
POSITION MATERIEL LEFT BEHIND FROM MILITARY WITHDRAWAL. PRESIDENT
ADDED, IN ASIDE, THAT HE COULD NOT TOLERATE "STATE WITHIN A
STATE" WHICH FRENCH PROPOSALS WOULD ENTAIL. ACCORDING TO
PRESIDENT, FRENCH THEN HAD UNILATERALLY AND UNFORTUNATELY DE-
CIDED UPON WITHDRAWAL HOSPITAL PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT. HE
EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY'S CONCERN RE-
GARDING FUTURE MEDICAL FACILITIES, BUT CONCLUDED THAT WITHDRAWAL
OF HOSPITAL HAD BEEN FRENCH DECISION AND "IT IS THEIR PROPERTY
TO DO WITH AS THEY WISH."

3. COMMENT: EMB HAS HEARD FROM OTHER NON-OFFICIAL FRENCH
SOURCES THAT GOC HAD DEMANDED THAT 70 PERCENT HOSPITAL PERSONNEL
MUST BE CHADIAN IF HOSPITAL WERE TO BE RETAINED, WHICH DUE LACK
TRAINED CHADIANS NOT FEASIBLE IF ADEQUATE STANDARDS TO BE MET.
DWYER

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